What is claimed:

1. A bandolier of syringes for an automated syringe handling system, the bandolier comprising: a web; a multiplicity of syringes bound to the web at a prescribed interval; a control feature disposed within the prescribed interval and between the syringes, the control feature being different from the surrounding web.

2. The bandolier of claim 1, wherein the control feature is a mark formed on a surface of the web.

3. The bandolier of claim 1, wherein the web is formed of at least one plastic sheet.

4. The bandolier of claim 1, wherein the web comprises first and second striplayers, the multiplicity of syringes being disposed between the first and second strip layers with the prescribed interval being defined by the first and second strip layers disposed between adjacent syringes.

5. The bandolier of claim 4, wherein the first and second strip layers are in intimate contact the multiplicity of syringes and the first and second strip layers are sealed against one another in the prescribed interval.

6. The bandolier of claim 1, wherein the control feature has a first reflective characteristic and the web surrounding the feature has a different second reflective characteristic.

7. The bandolier of claim 1, wherein there is a correlation between a location of the control feature in the prescribed interval and a type of syringe that is bound to the web.

8. A control system for an automated syringe handling system, the control system comprising: an indexer configured to advance a syringe through the automated syringe handling system; a bandolier of syringes supplying syringes to the indexer, the bandolier including: a web, a multiplicity of syringes bound to the web at a prescribed interval, and a control feature disposed within the prescribed interval and between the syringes, the control feature being different from the surrounding web; and a detection system including a detector

positioned to detect the control feature on the bandolier and perform a prescribed operation in response to the detection or non-detection of the control feature.

9. The control system of claim 8, further including a controller for advancing the bandolier, the controller being in communication with the detection system and the detection system being configured such that the detector sends a first signal to the controller upon sensing the control feature.

10. The control system of claim 9, wherein the first signal directs the controller to advance the bandolier a prescribed distance.

11. The control system of claim 8, wherein the detector is an optical detector arranged in cooperation with a light source and the control feature is an optical feature, the detector and light source detecting the optical feature of the bandolier when the optical feature is in proper registration therewith, the bandolier only being advanced if the optical feature is detected by the optical detector as the bandolier is advanced a predetermined distance.

12. The control system of claim 8, wherein the detector detects waves selected from the group consisting of ultrasonic waves, optical waves, and thermal energy waves, the detector further including logic that permits the one or more characteristics of the waves to be analyzed.

13. The control system of claim 12, wherein the one or more characteristics include an amplitude of the waves.

14. The control system of claim 8, wherein the control feature comprises a segment of the web that permits passage of at least one of heat and light having a first characteristic while the remainder of the web is treated to block at least one of heat and light having the first characteristic.

15. The control system of claim 8, further including a controller for advancing the bandolier in the automated syringe handling system, the controller being in communication with the detection system, the bandolier being advanced only if the detection system detects the control feature within prescribed criteria.

16. The control system of claim 15, wherein the prescribed criteria is one of a predetermined time period and a predetermined distance that the bandolier has been advanced.

17. The control system of claim 9, wherein the distance between control features corresponds to the distance that the bandolier is advanced upon receiving the first signal.

18. The control system of claim 9, wherein the controller advances the bandolier only a predetermined distance without detecting one control feature.